



Docket No.: 826.1431

86
1/8/03
31/5

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Hiroshi HARUKI, et al.

Serial No. 08/971,903

Group Art Unit: 3622

Confirmation No. 4920

Filed: November 17, 1997

Examiner: J. Myhre

For: COMPUTER-RELATED PRODUCT USER MANAGEMENT AND SERVICE SYSTEM

RECEIVED

JAN 03 2003

GROUP 3600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the pending claims 1, 10-16, 18 and 19 in accordance with the following:

1. (SEVEN TIMES AMENDED) A computer implemented management system, which manages registration of computer-related products, including hardware and software products, comprising:
- a user information general management means, generally managing user registration information, about users of hardware and software products, and using status information thereof transmitted from the user; and
 - a user registration/reference means that interfaces with the users notifying said user information general management means of the user registration information and the using status information at a request of the user and the using status information,
- wherein the user registration information comprises personal information about each user containing an identification number of each user and registration information containing a type of information which is requested by the users with regard to the computer-related products, said type of information can include information about products which can be used in combination with products that are used by the users and available from a plurality of vendors,